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News from Newgate:

OR, THE

FEMALE MUGGLETON,

BEING

An Account of the Apprehenſion, and Commitment of a certain Fanatical Woman, Charged with ſpeaking Several Horrid Blaſphemous Words.

Taken at *Stepney* the 29th. of *May*, 1678.

Together with a Relation of the takeing of Two Perſons Taxed for

Robberies on the Highway,

brought to the ſaid Goal of *Newgate* the ſame day.

With Allowance, May 31. 1678.

London, Printed for *P. B.* 1678.

12, 6p.

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News from Newgate:

OR, THE

FEMALE

MUSSELDON.

BEING

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Lepsie, Printed for P. B. 1678.

NEWS

From NEWGATE:

OR

The Female Muggleton,

IT was well hoped the Tares sown by the Evilone in the late times of Confusion, had been pretty well Exterpated, that wild Freaks and Blasphemous Parennies which some wicked people acted under pretence of Religion, had been forgot, or at least the Authors either sham'd out of their Extravagancies, or better instructed: so that we might have heard no more of them as formerly, to the Scandal of our holy profession of Christianity. But it seems some of that Fellow

Heaven

ven yet remains in some Giddy heads. A sad Example of which we have just now, in a Woman Committed but on Wednesday the 28th of May last, to Newgate for such wild, impious, and Blasphemous Language.

The quality of this person is but very mean, only an ordinary Servant, but a proper body, and good countenance: 'Tis said she was generally from her Child-hood addicted to Religion, and very inquisitive therein; but unhappily roving from one Sect to another, she at at last became acquainted with that scandalous wicked Gang that call themselves the [illegible] commonly have before been called *Ranters*. They soon instill'd wild notions into her head, which she has ever since retained Impressions of, and upon all occasions would be venting their bold Impious Expressions in her Discourses, and Conversation.

She lived not long since in service in *Newgate-street*, and in several other good places in and about *London*. For the truth is she was an excellent Servant for deligence and ready dispatch of her business, which made her generally beloved. But then she would talk so strangely and scandalously about things Divine, as soon made her Masters and Mistress weary of her, and either asham'd or afraid

to

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to entertain her in their Houses: As to her life, hateing these mad opinions, it was fair enough; very true and trusty in things committed to her charge, &c. But always a great Exclaimer against the Establisht Churches, and haunter of private *Conventicles*: But what particular Faction she pretended to most, is hardly known, for she had run through most of them, which filing her weak brain with a thousand disagreeing notions, the Devil at last screw'd her up to that height of Impiety as to pretend to a personal and familiar Communion with the Deity, so that she began to take upon her self (after the manner of that Wicked Impostor *Muggleton*) To pronounce whom she list, *Damn'd*; and those that pleas'd her, *Sav'd*. And to justifie these pretensions ('tis said) assum'd to her self the Sacred Attributes of God, and sometimes gave out, *That she was the Virgin Mary*; At other times Blasphemously taking upon her other Horrible Names and Titles.

But that which particularly and immediately caused her present Commitment, was this: On *Wednesday* the 20*th*. of *May*, the Festival lately celebrated with publique Divine Worship, as the Anniversary of our Soveraign Lord the Kings Happy Birth and miraculous Restauration; this Woman came into the Church-Yard at *Stepney*, and there beginning

ginning an Harangue as if she would Preach to them, soon got a company of people about her, to whom she uttered several blasphemous and detestable Expressions, not fit here to be related, since they must needs be grievous in the repetition to any good Christians ears; at first they concluded her to be distracted, but upon several peoples discoursing with her, finding Coherence in her talk, and offers of pretended Reasons, and sometimes Texts of holy Scripture truly cited and readily abus'd to maintain her sayings, and that no Arguments could reclaim her, or Admonitions perswade her to desist, they seized her and carried her before a Magistrate, where persisting in her impious Language, and pretending to Damn people, &c. she was committed to *Newgate*.

Next day after she came in there, a Minister went to see her, to whom she recounted several of her horrid speeches, and told him, *He was certainly Damn'd if he did not believe her*; He told her she was Mad, and seem'd to pitty her; Whereupon she Replyed: *Pitty thy self, and thine own Soul, I am not Mad, but bear witness to the truth, and thou shalt hear me affirm the same things when I come before the Bench*; To another, asking her if she were not acquainted with

Muggleton,

Muggleton, she said, Muggleton was not worthy to unloose the Latchet of her Shooe, and that he was a Deceiver, and she would Damn him.

By this poor Creatures lamentable delusion, we may observe the danger of an unsettled Faith in matters of Religion, and to what pernitious Ends the following of New-fangled Sects and Heresies, brings many weak Melancholly heads, which may caution all to learn to be wise unto Sobriety, not to perplex their brains with Notional Extravagances, but, in an humble, though not Implicite Faith, to submit to the Establisht Church of *England*, as directing all her Children in the soundest Path of Doctrine, and most sober form of Discipline in the World: To which whoever joyns a Holy, Humble, and Charitable Conversation, need not doubt of everlasting Happiness; without which pious life all Religion is vain: And therefore as we should endeavour to avoid Heresies, so we should also forsake all Debaucheries, and gross Impieties, not to invade other Mens Proprieties, and Violate the Laws of God and the Land by Theft.

Two Offenders of which kind, Brethren both in Nature and Iniquity, were the same Day brought into *Newgate*, taxed with committing several robberies

beries on the Road; one of them lived in Town, and the other in the Country, and under pretence of visiting each other, were, as 'tis said, used to meet for acting their Villanies. As to their particular Facts, though several are discours'd of, yet it being as yet but discourse, we shall referr the same to the time of their Legal Tryal: In order to which they were taken upon some Information against them, and now remain in *Newgate*, expecting the same.

FINIS.

Two Offenders of which kind, Brethren both in Nature and Iniquity, were the same Day brought into Newgate, mixed with communing several rob-

beries